

# The Hongkong Telegraph.

(ESTABLISHED 1881.)

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THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 1904.

四拜禮

號七月四英港香

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SINGLE COPY, 10 CENTS.

## Banks.

### THE YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK, LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED 1880.  
CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED ..... Yen 24,000,000  
CAPITAL PAID-UP ..... " 18,000,000  
CAPITAL UNCALLED ..... " 6,000,000  
RESERVE FUND ..... " 9,310,000  
Head Office: YOKOHAMA.  
Branches and Agencies:  
TOKYO, KOBÉ,  
NAGASAKI, LONDON,  
LYONS, NEW YORK,  
SAN FRANCISCO, HONOLULU,  
BOMBAY, SHANGHAI,  
TIENSIN, NEWCHANG,  
PEKING.

LONDON BANKERS:  
THE LONDON JOINT STOCK BANK, LD.  
PARRS' BANK, LD.  
THE UNION OF LONDON AND  
SMITHS BANK, LD.  
HONGKONG BRANCH—INTEREST ALLOWED  
On Current Account at the rate of 2 per cent.  
On fixed deposits for 12 months at 4 per cent.  
On fixed deposits for 18 months at 5 per cent.

HONGKONG BRANCH—INTEREST ALLOWED  
On Current Account at the rate of 2 per cent.  
On fixed deposits for 12 months at 4 per cent.  
On fixed deposits for 18 months at 5 per cent.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI  
BANKING CORPORATION.  
PAID-UP CAPITAL ..... \$10,000,000  
RESERVE FUND ..... \$10,000,000  
STERLING RESERVE ..... \$10,000,000  
SILVER RESERVE ..... \$10,000,000  
RESERVE LIABILITY OF PROPRIETORS ..... \$10,000,000

COURT OF DIRECTORS:  
A. J. RAYMOND, Esq., Chairman.  
H. E. TOMKINS, Esq., Deputy Chairman.  
Hon. C. W. DICKSON, Esq., N. A. S. Esq.,  
E. GOETZ, Esq., H. W. SLADE, Esq.,  
A. HANPT, Esq., C. A. TOMES, Esq.,  
H. SCHUBERT, Esq., E. S. WHEELER, Esq.,  
E. SHELLIM, Esq.

CHIEF MANAGER:  
HONGKONG—J. R. M. SMITH,  
MANAGER.  
SHANGHAI—H. M. BEVIS,  
MANAGER.  
LONDON BANKERS—LONDON AND COUNTY  
BANKING COMPANY, LIMITED.  
HONGKONG—INTEREST ALLOWED:  
On Current Account at the rate of 2 per cent.  
On fixed deposits for 12 months at 4 per cent.  
On fixed deposits for 18 months at 5 per cent.

ON FIXED DEPOSITS:  
For 3 months, 2 1/2 per cent. per annum.  
For 6 months, 3 per cent. per annum.  
For 12 months, 4 per cent. per annum.  
J. R. M. SMITH,  
Chief Manager.

HONGKONG SAVINGS BANK.  
THE Business of the above Bank is conducted  
by the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI  
BANKING CORPORATION. Rules may be  
obtained on application.  
INTEREST on deposits is allowed at 3 1/2 per  
cent. per annum.  
Depositors may transfer at their option  
balances of \$100 or more to the HONGKONG AND  
SHANGHAI BANK to be placed on FIXED  
DEPOSIT at 4 per cent. per annum.  
For the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI  
BANKING CORPORATION,  
J. R. M. SMITH,  
Chief Manager.

HONGKONG, 20th February, 1904.

THE NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA,  
LIMITED.  
Authorized Capital ..... 1,000,000  
Paid up Capital ..... 324,374  
HEAD OFFICE: HONGKONG.  
Board of Directors:  
Chan Kit Shan, Esq., J. Focke, Esq.,  
Creasy Ewens, Esq., G. C. Moxon, Esq.,  
Chief Manager,  
GEO. W. F. PLAYFAIR.  
Interest for 12 months Fixed ..... 5 1/2 %  
Hongkong, 4th February, 1904.

THE DEUTSCH ASIATISCHE BANK.  
PAID-UP CAPITAL ..... Sh. Tael 5,000,000  
HEAD OFFICE: SHANGHAI.  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS: BERLIN.  
BRANCHES:  
Berlin, Calcutta, Hankow,  
Tientsin, Tsingtau (Kiautschou).  
LONDON BANKERS:  
Messrs. N. M. Rothschild & Sons,  
UNION OF LONDON AND SMITHS BANK, LTD.  
DEUTSCHE BANK (BERLIN) LONDON AGENCY  
DIRECTION DER DISCOUNT GESELLSCHAFT.  
INTEREST allowed on Current Account.  
DEPOSITS received on terms which may be  
learned on application. Every description of  
Banking and Exchange business transacted.  
H. SUTER,  
Sub-Manager.

HONGKONG, 31st March, 1904.

TO LET.  
NO. 1, RIFON TERRACE IN FLATS.  
No. 4, RIFON TERRACE.  
No. 17, WONG NEI CHONG ROAD, facing  
Race Course.  
FLATS IN MORETON TERRACE, facing  
Polo Ground.  
OFFICES in course of erection, CON-  
NAUGHT ROAD (near BLAKE PIER).  
GODOWNS: PRATA EAST.  
" ROSENEATH" KOWLOON.  
Apply to  
THE HONGKONG LAND INVEST-  
MENT & AGENCY CO., LD.  
Hongkong, 6th April, 1904.

TO LET.  
NO. 71, WYNDHAM STREET.  
CHEAPEST HOUSES IN THE COLONY.  
MORRISON HILL GAP ROAD. Nice  
Houses, 4 Rooms, Bath Rooms, Out-  
houses and Verandahs. Only \$40 inclusive  
of Taxes.  
WILD DELL BUILDINGS, No. 147,  
WANCHAI ROAD. Comfortable and Airy  
Flats of 2 or 3 Rooms, from \$25 inclusive of Taxes.  
And others to suit various requirements.  
S. A. SETH,  
Land and Estate Broker,  
Dairy Farm Co., Ltd.  
Hongkong, 26th February, 1904.

HONGKONG HOTEL.  
Military Band during dinner on Saturday Nights.  
Hongkong, 4th December, 1903.

## Mails.

### PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

FOR	STEAMERS.	TO SAIL ON	REMARKS.
LONDON, &c.	BALLAARAT C. R. Longden, R.N.R.	Noon, 9th April	See Special Advertisement.
SHANGHAI	MALTA C. L. Daniel	About 10th April	Freight and Passage.
LONDON and ANTWERP via SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO & PORT SAID.	MALACCA A. F. Street	About 13th April	Freight and Passage.

For Further Particulars, apply to

E. A. HEWETT, Superintendent.

Hongkong, 7th April, 1904.

### IMPERIAL GERMAN MAIL LINE. NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD, BREMEN.

STEAM FOR  
SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO, ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID, NAPLES, GENOA,  
ANTWERP, BREMEN/HAMBURG;  
PORTS IN THE LEVANTE, BLACK SEA AND BALTIC PORTS;  
ALSO  
LONDON, NEW YORK, BOSTON, BALTIMORE, NEW ORLEANS, GALVESTON,  
AND SOUTH AMERICAN PORTS;  
Steamers will call at GIBRALTAR and SOUTHAMPTON to land Passengers  
and Luggage.

N.B.—Cargo can be taken on through Bills of Lading for the Principal Places in Russia.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG  
(SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.)

STEAMERS.	SAILING DATES.
*HAMBURG	WEDNESDAY, 13th April.
PRINZ HEINRICH	WEDNESDAY, 27th April.
HAVERN	WEDNESDAY, 25th May.
OLDENBURG	WEDNESDAY, 8th June.
SACHSEN	WEDNESDAY, 22nd June.
ZIETEN	WEDNESDAY, 6th July.
SEYDLITZ	WEDNESDAY, 20th July.
BRUNNEN	WEDNESDAY, 3rd August.
PREUSSEN	WEDNESDAY, 17th August.
PRINZ REGENT LUITPOLD	WEDNESDAY, 17th August.

ON WEDNESDAY, the 13th day of April, 1904, at Noon, the Steamship "HAMBURG,"  
of the HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINE, Captain Burmeister, with PASSENGERS,  
GERS, SPECIE and CARGO, will leave this Port as above. Calling at NAPLES and GENOA.  
Shipping Orders will be granted till NOON, on MONDAY, the 11th April. Cargo and  
Specie will be received on Board until 5 P.M., on TUESDAY, the 12th April. Parcels  
will be received at the Agency's Office until NOON, on TUESDAY, the 12th April.  
Contents of Packages are required. No Parcel Receipts will be signed for less than \$2.50  
and Parcels should not exceed Two Feet Cubic in Measurement.  
The Steamer has splendid Accommodation and carries a Doctor and Stewardses.  
Linen can be washed on board.

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD.  
For further Particulars, apply to  
MELCHERS & CO.,  
AGENTS.

Hongkong, 7th April, 1904.

## Intimations.

### GOLD REEF BRAND

# Pure Cream.

See future announcements.

### THOMAS' HOTEL.

A FIRST CLASS HOTEL, most centrally situated; Well furnished and Airy Bedrooms.  
Monthly Boarders accommodated on very moderate terms.  
For Particulars apply to  
THE MANAGER.

### MACAO AND CANTON HOTELS.

A LITTLE CHANGE.

The round trip from HONGKONG to MACAO, thence  
to CANTON and back to HONGKONG, will be  
found interesting and enjoyable.

WM. FARMER,  
Proprietor.

## Intimations.

### Bovril is Strength.

In these days of increased commercial  
activity strength and perfect health are  
needed more than ever. Bovril taken  
regularly is most strengthening and sus-  
taining. It keeps the system in the  
very pink of condition.



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### JAPAN COALS.

### THE MITSUI BUSSAN KAISHA (MITSUI & Co.)

HEAD OFFICE: 1, SURUGA-CHO, TOKYO.  
LONDON BRANCH: 34, LIME STREET, E.C.  
HONGKONG BRANCH: PRINCE'S BUILDINGS, ICE HOUSE STREET.

OTHER OFFICES:

New York, San Francisco, Hamburg, Bombay, Singapore, Sourabaya, Manila, Amoy,  
Shanghai, Chefoo, Tientsin, Newchwang, Port Arthur, Seoul, Chemulpo, Yokohama,  
Yokosuka, Nagoya, Osaka, Kobe, Maiduru, Kure, Shimonsaki, Moji, Wakamatsu,  
Karatsu, Nagasaki, Kuchinotau, Sasebo, Miike, Hakodate, Taipeh, &c.

Telegraphic Address: "MITSUI" (A.B.C. and A 1 Codes).

CONTRACTORS OF COAL to the Imperial Japanese Navy and Arsenal and the State  
Railways; Principal Railway Companies and Industrial Works; Home and Foreign Mail and  
Freight Steamers.

SOLE PROPRIETORS of the Famous Milke, Togawa, Yamano and Ida Coal Mines; and  
SOLE AGENTS for Fujinotani, Hokoku, Hondo, Ichimura, Kanada, Mamada, Matsuyama,  
Onoura, Otsuji, Sasahara, Tsubakuro, Yoshinotani, &c. N. INUZUKA, Manager, Hongkong.

### H. PRICE & CO.

WINE MERCHANTS,

12 QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

Picnic parties furnished with wines, etc., at  
a moment's notice.

Contracts made on special terms with  
Caterers, Committees, Messes and Captains of  
Steamers. All Wines, Spirits and Beers supplied  
are guaranteed.

Price list on application. TELEPHONE No. 135.

Hongkong, 23rd July, 1903.

### AMERICAN WHISKIES.

OLD CREMOENE WHITE RYE.  
WATERMILL SOUR MASH.  
HIGH BALL KENTUCKY RYE.  
FINE OLD BOURBON (IDES).  
O. K. BOURBON.  
PURE AMERICAN RYE.  
MOUNT VERNON RYE.  
CALDBECK, MACGREGOR & CO.,  
WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS,  
15, Queen's Road.

Hongkong, 2nd April, 1904.

### INCANDESCENT GAS LIGHT.

The attention of consumers is drawn to the fact that  
the Undersigned, being Sole Agents for  
DR. AUER VON WELSBACH Co.,  
VIENNA,  
THE INVENTORS OF INCANDESCENT  
GAS LIGHT,  
ARE SELLING THE ONLY GENUINE MANTLES,  
The Price of which has been reduced to  
FIFTY CENTS per piece.  
BEWARE OF INFERIOR IMITATIONS!  
KRUSE & Co.  
CONNOR & BROS.







## Intimation.

**NOTHING TO PAY.**

Hongkong, 4th April, 1904.



# Intimations.

## WATSON'S TOILET PREPARATIONS

### WATSON'S GLYCERINE AND CAR-

BOLIC SOAPS effect a saving of 50%, owing to the large size of the tablets. They are made of the purest ingredients and are elegantly put up. Our Carbolic Dog Soap is the best thing of its kind in the market.

### WATSON'S TAI YEUK FONG HAIR

WASH prepared from a recipe of the late Dr. Ayres, continues to give much satisfaction to those who use it.

### WATSON'S ORIENTAL DENTI-

PRICE. In the early days of the Colony the public used no other. Liquid dentifrices do not keep the teeth white and clean. We recommend the above preparation to all, and especially to those who are heavy smokers.

## A. S. WATSON & Co., LIMITED.

### THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

### MANUFACTURING CHEMISTS.

ESTABLISHED 1841.

Hongkong, 26th March, 1904. [35]

TELEPHONE NO. 155.  
CABLE ADDRESS: "ACHEE," HONGKONG  
A. B. C. CODE, 4TH EDITION.

ESTABLISHED 1859.

## A CHEE & CO., 祥利廣 17, QUEEN'S ROAD.

## FURNITURE DEALERS.

DRAWING-ROOM,  
DINING-ROOM,  
and BED-ROOM  
FURNITURE.

ELECTRO-PLATED,  
GLASS, and  
CHINA WARES.

PASTEUR'S MICROBE-PROOF  
FILTERS.

ROCHESTER LAMPS,  
WHITE TURKISH TOWELS,  
COUNTERPANES.

COOKING RANGES,  
KITCHEN UTENSILS, and  
HOUSEHOLD REQUISITES.

## PHOTOGRAPHIC DEPARTMENT.

DEVELOPING and PRINTING  
UNDERTAKEN for AMATEURS.  
GOOD WORK.

PROMPT RETURN.

Hongkong, 8th January, 1904. [45]

### CYPRIDOL CAPSULES.

THE MODERN REMEDY for CON-  
TAGIOUS SKIN DISEASES does  
not salivate or affect the gums like Mercury.  
Doctors recommend them.

BOTTLES of 50 Capsules...\$2.75 each

TO BE HAD AT

## THE PHARMACY 房藥 14, QUEEN'S ROAD, CENTRAL. 法中 Hongkong.

A. STEVENSON,  
Chemist.

Registered by the Pharmaceutical Society.

Hongkong, 2nd April, 1904. [384]

# NOTICE

All communications intended for publication in the "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" should be addressed to The Editor, 1, Ice House Road, and should be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address.

Ordinary business communications should be addressed to The Manager.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MS., nor to return any Contribution.

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Single Copies Daily, ten cents; Weekly, twenty-five cents.

## The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 1904.

## LOCAL AND GENERAL.

HONGKONG Bank shares have advanced to \$630 buyers.

THE German mail of the 2nd March was delivered in London on the 1st inst.

PRINCE Po Lun left Tokyo on the 28th ultimo en route for America, where he goes to visit the St. Louis Exhibition.

MR. Okasaki, of Kobe, has purchased the Dutch steamer *Helebe* and re-named her the *Nichiy-maru*. She was transferred to the purchaser at Yokohama on the 16th ult.

U.S. ADMIRAL Cooper has changed his pennant from the cruiser *New Orleans* to the battleship *Wisconsin* which is hereafter the flagship of the United States Asiatic Fleet.

MR. Arnold Forster, the Secretary for War, in reply to a question in the House of Commons the other day, stated that the total British casualties (deaths) in the South African war was 20,020.

Two fatal cases of plague are notified as having occurred during the day ended noon to-day, one was from Moon Street and the other from Second Street. Since the beginning of the year there have been eleven cases.

OVER half a million gallons of American kerosene oil passed the Kowloon Customs during October, November and December of last year. Compared with the same period of 1901 it is a falling off of more than 75 per cent.

THE Nippon Yusen Kaisha has chartered two more steamers in London. One of these the *Glossa*, sailed from England on the 12th ult. for Nagasaki, while the other one was to leave home by the end of March for either Nagasaki or Kobe.

THE erection and construction of a railway terminus and offices at Penang, for the Federated Malay States Railway, will soon be taken in hand. It is now only a matter of a few years for through rail connection between Penang and Singapore.

THE total of dues and duties collected by the Kowloon Customs during the last quarter of 1903 was Hk. Tls. 84,687 as against Hk. Tls. 80,785 the same quarter of 1902. The figures for the Lappa district are Hk. Tls. 101,921 and Hk. Tls. 76,833, respectively.

THE French steamer *Annam* which left Shanghai on Saturday took away about 450 passengers. Besides 100 men of the crew of the *Manjiour* she had a number of men belonging to the Russian vessels detained in Japan and numerous refugees from Korea and the north.

H.E. TSEN Chun Hsuen, Viceroy of Liang Kwang, has wired to Peking that he would undertake to raise funds for the construction of the railway in Kwangsi, to keep it from falling into the hands of a certain power, whose representative has been for some time after the concession.

M. CHARLES HARDOUIN, *Chef de Cabinet* of M. Beau, Governor General of Indo China, will leave for France by the French mail that sails from Saigon on the 9th inst. It will be remembered that M. Har douin was formerly Consul for the Republic at Canton, and was particularly active in encouraging French commercial enterprise and in furthering the interests of that country in Kwangsi.

By kind permission of Lt.-Col. Iremonger and officers, the Band of the 93rd Burma Infantry will play the following programme of music, at the King Edward Hotel, during dinner, on Friday, the 8th April, (weather permitting).

March....."The Stars and Stripes for ever"  
Overture....."Romantic"  
Selection....."The Toreador"  
Cavalry and More  
Cavalry Solo....."Cavalry"  
Selection....."Reminiscences of Wales"  
Voluntary....."Eudoria"  
Intermezzo....."Eudoria"  
God save the King.

FROM the middle of last March to the middle of September, 1903, 290 political prisoners passed through the central prison of Butyrki in Moscow. Two hundred and fifty-eight of these were men and 32 women. Ninety-three were guilty of belonging to the Russian Socialist party, 26 the Russian Revolutionary Socialists, and the rest of being connected in some way with oppositional movements. Twenty of the prisoners were dispatched to Siberia without trial, 13 were banished to Siberia for life, and the rest sentenced to various terms of imprisonment in Eastern Siberia.

AMONG the passengers en route to Hongkong by the C.P.R. steamer *Athenia* which is due here to-morrow is Captain Troubridge, until recently Naval Attaché to the British Legation in Tokyo, who is leaving for home. The Captain on leaving Tokyo for Yokohama received a hearty send-off from Shimbashi Station from a large number of foreign and Japanese friends, among those present being Sir Claude MacDonald, British Minister; Count von Trosdoerff, German Minister; Viscount Aoki, Admiral Viscount Ito, Chief of the Naval Board of Command; Admiral Ijima, Assistant Chief of the Naval Board; Admiral Miyabara, and other well-known men.

WE would direct the attention of readers to an announcement which appeared yesterday regarding the Sea View Beach House near Kobe. The house is well situated on the beach of the Inland Sea only six miles from Kobe and is highly respectable in all its appointments. The management cater for families, to whom a special reduction is made, and we should imagine that intending visitors to the shores of this famous sea could not do better than pay a visit to Sea View Beach House during the coming season. It lies in a quiet spot away from the bustle of crowded hotels. A first-class cook has already been engaged, and the cuisine will be of the best, though if guests desire wines and spirits they must provide their own, as intoxicating liquors will not be sold on the premises.

"Who's Who Year Book, 1904," is in hand from Messrs. Adam and Charles Black, Soho Square, London. In response to numerous suggestions and requests the publishers have, this year, issued in book form under the above title, the tables which were formerly incorporated in "Who's Who," and which were deleted from time to time in order to make room for the large number of biographies. The price of the book is one shilling net. It contains all that anyone ordinarily wants of the information found in the various year-books: Parliamentary annuals; Foreign Office, Colonial, and Indian lists; besides including much miscellaneous information usually only to be gathered from very many different sources. Among the contents are tables of pseudonyms, peculiarly pronounced proper names, professional societies, academic degrees, Government officials and many others. The book, in short, combines in itself the gist of the information given in many other publications.

## SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held this afternoon in the Board Room. Present:—The President (Hon. Dr. J. M. Atkinson, P.C.M.O.), Mr. P. Jones, (Vice-President), Mr. Ahmet Rumjahn, Mr. Lau Chu Pak, Dr. Pearce (Acting M. O. H.), Dr. Barnett (Assistant M. O. H.), Col. Webb, Mr. F. J. Hindeley, and Mr. T. A. Hammer, Acting Secretary.

The minutes of the previous meetings were confirmed.

The President, moved:—That Donald John Mackenzie, Hubert John William Gidley and Horace Julian Knight be appointed for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of the bye-laws for the "Prevention or mitigation of epidemic, endemic or contagious disease" subject to the approval of His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government.

That Henry Thomas Jackman and Alfred Carter, acting sanitary surveyors, and Horace Julian Knight, and Herbert Pearson be deputed by the Board under section 30 of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, 1903, to institute summary proceedings before a magistrate against any person contravening any of the bye-laws duly made under section 16 of the aforesaid Ordinance; and that the said Henry Thomas Jackman be authorised by the Board to issue certificates of occupation in respect of domestic buildings under section 81 of Ordinance No. 13 of 1901; and further

That the said Henry Thomas Jackman, Alfred Carter, Horace Julian Knight, and Herbert Pearson be deputed by the Board under the provisions of section 256 of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, 1903, to institute summary proceedings before a magistrate for the recovery of any penalty imposed by part II of the said Ordinance or by any bye-laws made thereunder.

Mr. Rumjahn seconded.

Carried.

## THE SHOOTING OF THE CHINA SQUADRON.

A correspondent writing to the *Navy League Journal* says in February issue of that paper:—"The inference is drawn from the statistics of the shooting of the China Squadron that on these figures one *Albatross* is equal to two *Venueances*. Such an inference is only legitimate if you know that both ships did their shooting under exactly the same conditions of weather, light, and marking. If you do not know this, I submit that such an inference is unjust, misleading, and mischievous. The only result of this sort of criticism is to make captains unwilling to carry out their shooting in any except the most favourable circumstances possible."

# CORRESPONDENCE.

(We do not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed by Correspondents in this column.)

S. J. Action No. 422 of 1904.  
The Tak On Insurance Exchange & Loan Co., Ltd.

Fung Wai Shan.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH."  
DEAR SIR,—The attention of our clients, The Tak On Insurance Exchange & Loan Co., Ltd., has been drawn to the report contained in your issue of the 5th instant of this action, and in particular to the reported statements of Mr. Hastings, plaintiff's solicitor, to the effect that, "this year, however, the directors wrote him (the plaintiff) to the effect that as the business was greatly decreasing and there being fears of it not being able to continue for much longer if he (the plaintiff) had a better situation to take up he was at liberty to go."

In the course of the hearing, the plaintiff's solicitor produced the above letter and put in and read what purported to be a translation thereof bearing out the above statement.

Upon the letter in question being translated by the Court translator, however, it was certified to mean as follows:—"This is to respectfully inform you that at present we find your business getting very small recently, and this Company cannot employ you again. If you have better employment please select one, and draw at once \$15 as settlement of the 12th month's wages. This is to specially inform."

Mr. Wai Shan.

Kwai Year 12th moon 1st day (Chop)

"Written by the various Directors."

The difference in meaning between the correct translation and the one produced by the plaintiff's solicitor is so obvious that in justice to themselves our clients feel compelled to ask you to give publicity to this and so correct any erroneous impression of our clients' position and standing that may have been created by the statement above referred to.

Yours faithfully,

DEACON, LOOKER & DEACON.

Hongkong, 7th April, 1904.

## THE HEALTH OF PAKHOI.

Dr. J. H. Lowry's report, on the health of Pakhoi, for the half-year ended 31st March, 1903, is printed in the Medical Reports of the Imperial Maritime Customs. Dr. Lowry says:—"The general health of foreigners has been fairly good during the past six months. Only four members of the Customs staff and one of the postal have been off duty through sickness. There has been one birth, the lady being on a visit from the neighbouring port; she was a multipara, and made a good recovery. The winter has not been a severe one—the usual northerly blows, which last three days, then the weather is mild again; the lowest reading of the thermometer was 3° F., on the 30th Jan. The rainfall has not been great; the largest quantity recorded was in the month of December and March. Dengue was prevalent in the town during September, October, and November; in the latter month I attended three Europeans, all living in the same house, situated on the Lienchow Road. One of the ladies stricken had not long recovered from her confinement. All three cases did well and the disease ran a simple course: there was much weakness afterwards, and in the case of the male patient there was much weakness of the knees for quite a time after. This is the first occasion that dengue has come under my notice during a long residence in the South. The description of the disease given by Manson in his *Tropical Diseases* is most accurate—a true picture of the disease. At the time of writing this report no cases of bubonic plague have come under my notice, and from daily inquiries there is no outbreak in the town, though this is the time of year the disease is prone to make its appearance in this neighbourhood. No Europeans now live in the town, and more houses have been built on the healthy plain to which I have so frequently referred to in previous reports."

## THE TRADE OF JAPAN.

EXPORTS AFFECTED BY THE WAR.

Sugar and kerosene oil are now being imported into Japan in large quantities in anticipation of a rise in the rates of Customs tariff. The export trade has been generally in a depressed condition of late owing to the situation in the Far East. The foreign trade of this country from the 11th to the 20th resulted, in consequence, in an excess in imports of Yen 1,935,653, which makes a total of Yen 11,687,697 from January last.

## NAGASAKI SHIPPING REPORT FOR 1903.

The total number of steam and sailing vessels that visited Nagasaki last year was 3,381, 2,996,229 registered and 4,938,496 gross tons, inclusive of 5,057 coasting vessels with 793,109 registered and 1,364,650 gross tons. The foreign trading vessels were therefore 1,324 in number, the detail being as follows:—

Nationality.	Vessels.	Registered.	Gross.
Japanese.....	727	808,795	1,352,812
British.....	198	544,630	883,468
German.....	67	308,112	491,772
Russian.....	176	252,086	453,508
U.S.A.....	53	218,691	383,273
Norwegian.....	45	31,548	54,433
French.....	8	16,163	30,703
Danish.....	13	10,809	1,801
Swedish.....	2	3,323	5,177
Dutch.....	2	3,224	5,138
Austrian.....	2	2,629	4,579
Korean.....	2	123	181
Total.....	1,324	2,996,229	4,938,496

# THE BISMARCK OF JAPAN.

MARQUIS ITO.

In the East they call Marquis Ito the "Bismarck of Japan." "The emperor," says a recent telegram, "has had a long talk with Marquis Ito before convening the Council of Ministers to consider the text of the note to be addressed to Russia. It is believed that Marquis Ito is kept well informed regarding the framing of the Japanese note."

As I read that despatch the face of the foreign statesman, the most remarkable that the last century has produced in the Orient, came vividly before my memory. Again I beheld its deep wrinkles in brow and cheek; its eternally stereotyped smile, disclosing the pointed white teeth between the blanched lips; the extraordinary keenness of the eyes that looked out through gold-bowed spectacles; and especially the prodigious and disturbing quickness of the glances that sought and found and recorded whatever was of interest to the mind that controlled them.

It was three years ago, in a London salon, that I met him; and there we had a long talk. To-day I have rediscovered the brief notes I had then jotted down in my journal.

As he told me the story of his political career I felt as if I were turning the pages of some Oriental story of Haroun al Raschid. He was twenty years old when he first took office under his country's Government. The old mikado, Komei Tenno, made him his friend and one morning summoned him to the palace. "You have," said he, "the making of a statesman, and perhaps you are destined to become the prime minister of Japan, but to this end you must give yourself a broad education. Especially you must understand Europe."

At the expense of the imperial treasury, Ito was despatched in company with another distinguished Japanese gentleman, Count Inoue, on a journey to England. There he remained fifteen months studying English and the institutions of Great Britain; he observed men and affairs and ships, ships most of all. At the end of the fifteen months he returned to the Orient and threw himself headlong into the war in which Japan was then involved. On his way home he left the passenger steamer and enlisted as a simple sailor on board a man-of-war; took part in the naval battle that was fought beneath the walls of Shimonoseki; and then, still in sailor's dress, negotiated with the foreign Powers in the name of his emperor. He was twenty-two years old.

When the treaty of peace was signed he was made governor of Hyogo, and in 1868 at the age of twenty-eight he was made minister of finance. Then followed cabinet after cabinet and ministerial combination after ministerial combination without reference to Ito. Later, however, he was seven times made minister and four times president of the council.

One day the younger emperor, Mutsuhito, had Ito called to him, and addressed him in almost the same words which his father, Komei Tenno, had used: "You are a great minister, but you must still inform yourself more broadly. My father sent you to study Europe; I am going to send you to study America."

So, always at the expense of the imperial treasury, Ito set out to learn about the United States. As a result of the investigation, he brought back the outlines of a constitution for Japan. Of this let him speak for himself:

"It was by no means an easy thing to make a constitution for a country which had never so much as heard of parliamentary government. I had no model to guide me in all our history, and it was necessary to build soundly for the future. I tried to forget all the constitutions of all the Western nations and to frame one which would be adaptable to Oriental peoples. I asked myself how Buddha would have acted under the circumstances and what Confucius would have done if he had been required to establish a parliamentary regime, and I flatter myself that I succeeded pretty well in getting into their skins; for my constitution has worked beautifully for twenty years, and no efforts have been made to modify it in the slightest particular."

This man, who is perhaps a rather clumsy joker, had nevertheless profound political conviction, and when he spoke of the duties of a party leader his voice assumed the inflections of genuine eloquence: "A political party," said he, "must be really a guide for the masses, and to that end it must begin by maintaining a strict discipline and perfect order within its own ranks. Its chief rule must be the maintenance of an absolute devotion to the higher interests in its country, and it must particularly avoid giving office to mediocre individuals who have no other claim of preference than their political affiliations." His countrymen have given him the sobriquet of "Bismarck," and the emperor, who has four times called him to preside over the council of the ministry, now makes him preside over the councils of the elder statesmen, as we have had occasion to learn through recent despatches—councils where all the old servants of the country and all the past glories of the empire are summoned together, and at which it is decided what part the nation is to play in an hour of anxiety and trouble.

Such an hour has just come to Japan, and that is doubtless why the emperor has had a long interview with Marquis Ito. What came of it? That is still a mystery. At that solemn moment perhaps this "Bismarck of the Orient" remembered the unforgettable words of the other Bismarck, "whose granite statue rises in the Place de Friedricshue: 'Never in my life have I declared war, unless I had more than a certainty of winning a victory.'"

# TELEGRAMS.

## "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" SERVICE.

## RUSSIAN CRUISER STOPS THE "HAIMUN"

## THE "TIMES" STEAMER SEARCHED.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

WEIHAIWEI, 7th April.  
10.56 a.m.

The Russian Cruiser *Bayan* stopped and searched *The Times* steamer *Haimun*, when the latter was cruising about thirty miles from Port Arthur.

[The s.s. *Haimun* was chartered, from Messrs. Douglas Lapaik & Co., prior to the opening of the present war by the proprietors of *The Times*. The vessel is fitted with the marconi apparatus and communicates with a station erected at Weihaiwei by permission of the British Government.—Ed., H.K.T.]

(Reuters.)

## Anti-Government Plot in Korea. LONDON, 5th April.

News from St. Petersburg says that the recent statements of an anti-Government plot in Korea are confirmed. The influential pedlars guild is involved. The main object of the plot is to overthrow the pro-Japanese Government and depose the Emperor.

## The War.

A Japanese destroyer engaged in scouting at Port Arthur has discovered a channel, 130 yards wide, available for the passage of ships.

LATER.

## The Trans-Siberian Railway.

M. Khilkoff has returned to St. Petersburg to confer with the authorities. He says that the scarcity of cars and locomotives on the Eastern section of the railway has been remedied; west of Irkutsk ten trains, beyond Lake Baikal nine goods trains, besides passenger and military trains, are running daily in either direction. M. Khilkoff returns in a fortnight to supervise the construction of the circum-Baikal line.

## PARTNERSHIP DISPUTE.

The Acting Puisne Judge, Mr. T. Sercombe Smith, heard an action in the Supreme Court this morning, in which the Lung Wo Ki firm sought to recover \$154.93 from the Tsung Ying Ki firm in the respect of goods sold and delivered.

Mr. O. D. Thomson appeared for the plaintiffs, while Mr. E. J. Grist, (of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist) represented the defendants.

Mr. Thomson explained that when the case was last before the Court leave to amend the claim was given, and the amended amount now stood at \$154.93. The goods in dispute were ordered from the plaintiffs by Tsung Ying and Tsung Kow at different periods and consisted of bricks and tiles. Tsung Ying and Tsung Kow were partners in the firm, and the only question was whether the goods ordered by each party were ordered on behalf of the firm. The partnership had been dissolved and Tsung Kow had left the Colony. Plaintiffs submitted that the goods were ordered on behalf of the firm. Certain items were admitted and \$51.20 had been paid into Court, \$50 having been paid just before the issue of the writ.

Witnesses were then heard.

## SHIPPING AND MAILS.

MAILS DUE.

Canadian (*Athenia*) 8th inst.  
English (*Italia*) 8th inst.  
Canadian (*Empress of India*) 12th inst.  
German (*Hamburg*) 12th inst.  
Indian (*Gregory Aparca*) 13th inst.  
Indian (*Laitang*) 17th inst.  
American (*Siberia*) 17th inst.  
Canadian (*Tartar*) 22nd inst.

The Aparca Co.'s s.s. *Gregory Aparca* from Calcutta left Singapore for this port this afternoon.

The P. M. S. Co.'s s.s. *Kora* which left Hongkong on 10th ult. arrived at San Francisco on 6th inst.

The I. C. S. N. Co.'s s.s. *Laitang* left Calcutta for this port via the Straits on 10th inst. and may be expected here on 17th inst.

The C. P. R. Co.'s s.s. *Empress of China* arrived at Kobe at 8 p.m. on 5th inst. and left again at noon Wednesday for Yokohama where she is due to arrive at noon on 6th inst.

The C. P. R. Co.'s s.s. *Empress of Japan* arrived at Kobe at 8 a.m. on 6th inst. and left again at 2.30 p.m. same day for Nagasaki where she is due to arrive at 6 p.m. on 6th inst.



## THE WAR.

THE AREA OF OPERATIONS  
IN KOREA.

[BY ANGUS HAMILTON.]

The area of immediate activity in Korea lies at the present moment in the region immediately between the watershed of the Yalu and the city of Pyongyang. Until the Japanese have arrived at the Yalu, however, affairs of outposts only will occur, since ordinary military precaution demands that either side should project in advance of their position a screen of outposts by which to cover their preparations. It is, therefore, unlikely for the moment that any engagement of importance will take place. Various scattered parties of troops will still maintain observation of each other, any general action between the opposing forces being reserved until the Japanese are in touch with the Yalu position.

Preparations to this end, we may take it, are being pushed ahead rapidly, and in the meantime a general lull in the development of the campaign is noticeable. The pause which thus takes place is a merciful one for the interests of the Russians, whose lack of preparation becomes more apparent as the days pass. Indeed, it is to be doubted whether any power played for so grim a hazard with so little in hand. In every direction there is a complete absence of supplies and materials; the chaotic condition of the Russian communications making it impossible that any force can be detached from the Yalu and Liau positions, as well as the work of holding the railway, to take the initiative in Korea. The alternative may be less disastrous, since the Russians fight well on the defensive.

There is no doubt that the weakness of the Russian position is well known to the Japanese, who otherwise would not proceed at once to convert Pyongyang into their advance depot of supplies. If the Russians were capable of taking the field in for the position of Pyongyang, lying within the area of operations, would be too hazardous for the Japanese to attempt to seize before they had come to conclusion with the forces of their opponents. As it is, stores and men are moving through to Pyongyang without any sign of haste or any evidence of extraordinary precaution. This procedure, therefore, suggests that the Japanese possess exhaustive information upon the subject of the Russian condition, and if this premise is accurate it is impossible that the Russians can afford to move in any numbers across the Yalu.

The position which the Japanese are now holding permits a line from Pyongyang to Won-san to be taken up by their forces. Against this, there is evidence which shows that the Russian advance screen extends to Syak-chyon, a little south of An-chu, where the advance main body is located. Corresponding with this movement, a mixed force of Cossack mounted and dismounted men has arrived at Tan-chyon, on the east coast, some sixty miles north of Won-san. If reliance may be placed upon the existence of this force in the field, it would appear that the Russians are in occupation of the northern region, with the intention probably of uniting these two forces and falling back on the Yalu position. If the occupation by the Japanese of Hun-chun is right, it will be difficult for the force who have now arrived within the vicinity of Won-san to retrace their steps along the east coast of Korea to the Russian frontier. The only practical route is one which crosses the peninsula due west, and enables a meeting of these two advanced Russian forces to take place somewhere in the vicinity of An-chu. The position of An-chu is convenient for the Russians, since from that point, and running in a north-easterly direction, immediate observation of the movements of the Japanese forces along the Pyongyang and Won-san line on either side of the Peninsula is possible.

This definition of the location of the Russian and Japanese forces and their positions in Korea corresponds with the indications which have already been given of the direction in which the Japanese will advance. With Won-san, Chemulpo, and Fusan as their bases, the concentration of troops which is taking place in Southern Korea is independent of any action which may be attempted from the base which they have recently established at Pussiet Bay. In all probability, the Japanese will not use Fusan much longer as a base to their operations in Northern Korea. The supplies and men necessary to hold Southern Korea may deploy through Fusan, but for the immediate purposes of the campaign, Chinampo and Won-san will represent the immediate bases with the estuary of the Yalu and the Pussiet Bay as the ultimate bases of the future operations.

It is unlikely that any great movement will take place from Pussiet Bay until some definite result has been obtained in the direction of Port Arthur and the Yalu. The Yalu and Liau Rivers are, however, the turning key to the operations upon land, and from their position on the flanks of the Liau-tung Peninsula the strategic advantage rests with the Russians until the Japanese have made their attempt to invest Port Arthur or to cross these rivers. The movement of troops elsewhere is, supplementary to the general disposition of the forces, which disposition is contained in chief by the line of front occupied on the Yalu. The extremities of the Russian position there, Ta-tung-kao and Wiju, hold the line against which the Japanese must necessarily advance if they wish to turn Port Arthur. The deployment of a force through Hun-chun and down the movement with greater prospect of success, since it will be necessary for the Russians to extend their force across the two fronts, thus weakening the centre of the Yalu position, in order to hold in check any movement from Hun-chun. Until the Japanese attempt has been made against the Yalu, however, Port Arthur will stand intact, the strength of the position being sufficient to prevent the landing of troops at Ta-tung-kao and Wiju. The operations on sea may provide a

certain naval flourish, they are at the moment subsidiary to the principal features in the situation, although they serve to distract attention from the operations on land. In the meantime, however, while the ineffectual bombardment of Port Arthur continues, Japan is gradually securing the lines of communication in Korea and bringing up her forces to the strength which the scope of her operations will demand. Many days, however, must elapse before the campaign may be said to have moved beyond its present and preliminary phase.

## "EMPRESSES" AS CRUISERS.

In regard to the report that orders had been given the company to transform the steamships of the Empress line, plying between Vancouver and the Orient, into armed cruisers, we find that it was reported that the *Empress* shipped at Hongkong their six-inch guns and all the necessary equipment for making the important change in their capacity. It was also understood in Vancouver that the *Empresses*, until the termination of the present war, are to maintain the vigilance and readiness for emergencies while at sea that would be observed on board a British ship of war. On the *Empress* at suitable spots on the broadsides there are sponsons on which the six-inch guns are mounted with their steel shields, while the ammunition for the guns is kept at places handy to the guns, and well protected from possible stray shots. The vessels are specially strengthened all around the gun sponsons to check the strain of gun fire, although the carriages of the six-inch weapons are fitted with the Vavasseur recoil apparatus which gathers up the recoil and allows the gun to return to firing position without handling. Owing to their speed and coal capacity the *Empresses* would make armed cruisers of no mean power. As is generally known, the officers and crews of these fine vessels are naval reservists, thoroughly trained for their duties in case of any trouble. In the event of Great Britain being drawn in the quarrel, the *Empresses* would play no unimportant part in the conveyance of troops and stores.

## SEA FIGHTING.

From an engineering point of view the naval operations in the Far East are of surpassing interest, inasmuch as they constitute well nigh the first serious fighting that has occurred with modern appliances. It is a singular circumstance that the Japanese have now twice gained experience in sea fighting where we as yet have none, and our American cousins in the Spanish war very little. It would be wrong to generalize from the very meagre details yet to hand of sea fighting last month in the Far East. So far as yet appears, the torpedo, once so dreaded as to be threatened with condemnation as an infernal machine, is infinitely more useful in operation than shell fire. It is true that the ships torpedoed lay at anchor in a port where they could not well sink far enough to drown their crews, and indeed the picture drawn by the New York Herald's correspondent of the *Perseus*'s cook calmly throwing out slops on the morrow of the disaster, gives a serio-comical touch to the affair. In that case the torpedoed ships have been simply put out of action more or less temporarily without any more serious loss of life than was richly deserved by a force caught so flagrantly napping. It would be a very different affair in deep water, but then the torpedoing of ships in steam at sea is not so easily effected. The more recent torpedo action in a snowstorm would tend to show that Nature can occasionally be effectively used to dispense with the need for submarine boats.

Coming to the shell-fire actions it is interesting to note how terribly successful it was off Chemulpo against cruisers, and how relatively harmless at Port Arthur against fully armoured ships. It has long been foreseen that a shell bursting among a crowd of men inside an iron box has would convert a stricken ship's 'ween decks into most ghastly shambles. That appalling forecast has been verified almost to the letter, and the lesson that seems first to be learnt is that a cruiser should not let herself be caught in narrow waters where her speed and manoeuvring power cannot be utilised for avoiding shell fire. It looks as if the doomed ships at Chemulpo were far from well-equipped for the dread baptism of shell-fire they so gallantly went forth to face. Before saying more than that one would like to have more reliable particulars of the extraordinary 8,000-yard range at which, according to the telegrams, the Japanese made such good practice, even admitting that the sea was so smooth as gave a steady platform. The chief lesson, so far, seems to bear on the business of the deck officer more than of the engine-room, or even than on the designer's functions. It is: Don't get caught napping particularly in narrow waters, more especially on a partially armoured craft—above all where you have no battleships to retire upon.—*Indian Engineering.*

Commander Hirose, who was killed in the second attempt to block Port Arthur, was decorated with the Golden Kite Insignia, Third Class Order, Insignia of Small Rising Sun of Fourth Order of Merit and granted a pension of ¥700. Senior Sergeant Sugino, who was killed, was decorated with the Insignia of the Order of the Golden Kite and the Insignia of the Single Royal Rising Sun Order and a pension of ¥200.

The last moments of Commander Hirose and the marine officer Sugino, both of the *Fubai*, are as follows. When the vessel was about to drop anchor, Sugino descended into the hold to ignite the explosives, when the enemy's torpedo struck the ship and killed him. Commander Hirose, when the crew had got into the boat, not seeing Sugino reached through the ship. The sinking vessel compelled him to take to the boat and as they were retreating, a missile struck the Commander on the head, causing his body to be hurled and leaving nothing behind but a piece of flesh. In connection with the brush at Chongju on the 28th ult. it appears that it was part of the cavalry of the Imperial Bodyguard that was engaged with a detachment of the Chichinsky Cossack regiment of 24-Battal Cossacks under

the command of Colonel Pavloff. The cavalry scouts which were operating as far as Wiju were the first and fifth companies of the Argunsky regiment. The first-named regiment comprised 88 soldiers and 55 non-combatants, and had 51 waggoners attached, apparently belonging to the commissariat department. The Japanese army found, in the vicinity of Ka-san, a military suit of clothes bearing the crest of the First Regiment, together with a number of overcoats and some of the Russian military equipment.

## ON THE WAY TO THE FRONT.

S.S. Ping-Tsing (Off-Moji),  
March 23rd.

It was well in the middle watch when the long-awaited for "clang" of the antiquated stand-by bell rang out and the mud hook slowly unbeat itself from Dai Nippon. A cold Nor'easter is blowing, and I anticipate a rough passage.

It has fallen to my lot in my time to be mixed up in all kinds of floating craft; but "this here 1861-er" with her Chinese flag and Japanese crew beats all. About the size of one of the Clyde chubbs, and quite as speedy, she accommodates (?) 252 passengers. Once known as the *Hee Min*, she was no doubt (40 odd years ago) a flyer; but as I have progressed, and her old compound engine as it wheezes out its chorus would supply Bobby Burns's ghost "a song of steam." Having made sundry calculations in regard to the vessel's two boats, four life belts, and twelve wooden buckets, I have decided to stick quite close to the "rice boiler" and give the other 251 a chance.

Together with me, and closeted in a wee room, are three others; two are correspondents for Tokyo papers bound for Chemulpo. As anticipated, the weather outside Rokusen was sufficiently bad to cause the skipper to anchor, and we lay bobbing about for the remainder of the night. It was not, indeed, until 3 p.m. on the 22nd that the sea moderated and we were able to start again.

Fusan, Mar. 23.

At 6 a.m. we made the rocky coast line, and soon afterwards passed the precipitous cliffs that mark the entrance to the land-locked bay. Winding round the base of a fir-crowned hill, and the town of Fusan came to view. To the westward a roadway cut through the soft hill leads to the railway terminus, and we could see a couple of engines hauling trucks on the sidings. Surmounting a hill, as one glances towards the railway buildings are imposing foreign-built houses, and over one of them floats the red ensign. Further along, half-hidden, are more buildings of substantial structure. A small breakwater, about half-a-mile in length, runs along the water front, some 200 yards from the "bund." At one end of this breakwater is situated the Customs compound and the *tabata*.

One's first impression of Fusan is that the town is decidedly Japanese, from the sampans that carry you ashore to the houses and streets. But the Koreans and their garments are decidedly strange to the new-comer. At first the pure white of the garment reminds one of priests; but the soiled and dirty linen of the labouring classes makes a somewhat unpleasant contrast.

The streets on close inspection prove ill-kept and dirty, and although the telephone and electric light have come, there appears to have been no attention paid to sanitation. Rumour reaches the camp, via Chemulpo, of "the fall of Port Arthur," and quite a thrill of excitement runs through the populace. We leave at noon for Chemulpo.—*Kobe Chronicle.*

A St. Petersburg dispatch reports a great scarcity of foodstuffs for the armies en route to Manchuria. The problem is becoming so serious that army officials are apprehensive lest they become unable to deal with it. Meat rations are sparingly served on the long trip across Siberia, in view of the many delays on the way, and the troops for the most part are subsisting on sour soup with cabbage. Notwithstanding this grave situation, General Kuropatkin declares the soldiers are in fine fettle and they will surprise the world by their willingness and capacity to meet the exigencies he admits are ahead in the bitter campaign. Tea is not provided by the authorities, but nearly every company supplies itself though the men receive only seven roubles a year. The Captain says that tea keeps the rank and file in humour to bear hardship and face danger. Every railway in Russia is carrying soldiers to junction points that connect with the Trans-Siberian line. Troop trains are followed by processions of cars lined with ammunition, guns, two-wheeled carts and hospital supplies. The soldiers are generally between 21 and 27 years of age, and are said to be full of vigour. Their uniforms are plain almost to the point of meanness. When the troops reach the military storehouses east of Lake Baikal they are provided with long sheepskin overcoats and double jackets of deerskin or goatskin. Each company is under direction of its Captain and supervises its own kitchen and nominates its cook and provision master. All matters pertaining to the company are managed with great efficiency as a majority of the soldiers are peasants accustomed to highly developed communal existence.

## "TEIKOKU GUNJIN YENGOKUAI."

From the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, who, with the Yokohama Specie Bank and the Mitsui Russian Company, is receiving subscriptions in Hongkong on behalf of the association for relief of those serving in the Japanese Army and Navy, we have received a small pamphlet setting forth the act of endowment, and giving a statement of object. The latter is as follows:—

At this sublime moment, when our soldiers and mariners are fighting in defense of our country against one of the great neighbouring powers, nobody can deny that we are in the face of an extremely serious crisis, the magnitude of which is unparalleled in the history of our past. It is unquestionably a moment when the whole nation ought to stand up in the cause of the public weal. The young and robust are with the flag; they have to sacrifice all

their personal interests for their country's sake. They can not attend to their aged and decrepit parents, can not nurse their sick and dying wives, can not lend ear to the cries of hunger of their beloved children. Is there any one possessing the common feelings of humanity who can look with calm unconcern upon these pathetic scenes of heroic patriotism and self-sacrifice? The State must of course take steps to provide for those that sacrifice their family interests on the altar of country, and we learn with pleasure that the Government is now submitting suitable projects for the consideration of the competent authorities. But we have to take into consideration the fact that any measure of relief undertaken by the State must be subject to the restraints of rule and be governed by the general average of visible facts, so that account can not be taken of the special circumstances of each family and each member of a family. Besides, the amount thus granted in relief necessarily can not be superabundant. It might be enough for families with few members in remote village regions, but it would be evidently insufficient for large families residing in populous cities. Hence the necessity of resorting to private initiative and of supplementing these insufficiencies, correcting these inequalities, and endeavouring to meet the needs of each suffering family. Compatriots, it is our duty to look to the welfare of the weak who are dear to those that are spilling their blood and risking their all in defense of the honour of the nation. Let us at least endeavour to enable them to face death in their country's cause with peaceful heart—assured that the spectre of starvation will not menace the loved ones they leave behind. This is at once the duty and the privilege of their fellow-countrymen, and we appeal to the public to co-operate heartily in the discharge of the solemn obligation. We may add that though this Association has been founded in view of the present crisis, it may subsequently happen that the result of the work done may suggest the advisability of continuing the Association as a permanent institution.

Following are items from the *N. C. D. News*:—

Tokio, 31st March. In the engagement at Chongju on the 28th of March, five Russian officers were severely wounded, and three Cossacks killed and twelve wounded. Major-General Mischenko was present at the engagement.

The Russian attempt to neutralise Newchwang has failed, owing to the British statement that it must be dependent on the withdrawal of the Russian troops.

The Russian administration at Newchwang having issued preliminary regulations with regard to the military control of the port, the Foreign Consuls on the 28th of March asked their home governments for instructions on doubtful points.

Tokio, 1st April.—It is stated on good authority that the Russian force between Chiu-lin-cheng and Fenghuang-cheng has now reached about one army corps. Relays consisting of five or six men each are posted every one or two li between Chiu-lin-cheng and Antungshien. The Russians are hastily erecting entrenchments in the Yalu valley with the object of keeping open their communications. Seven have been finished at Antungshien, and five or six more are under construction.

Tokio, 3rd April.—The Yalu is thawing. It is reported that the Russians have withdrawn from Shonchhyon, midway between Chongju and Wiju.

The contributions to the Soldiers' Relief Society have reached one million yen.

## THE TOMB FESTIVAL.

The Tsing Ming, or tomb festival, which was celebrated throughout China on Tuesday last, and was responsible for much inconvenience regarding "boy piggin," is one of the three principal annual festivals of the celestial Empire, the other two being the New Year and the Mid-Autumn festivals. They date back probably no farther than the earlier years of the Ming dynasty. The Tsing Ming festival may be called the Festival of the Dead, and it reminds one very forcibly of *Le Jour des Morts* which is celebrated in Paris on the last day of the year, when so many thousands of the Parisians repair to the cemetery of Père la Chaise, where their friends and loved ones are sleeping, so in China, on the Tsing Ming festival, immense numbers of the people repair to the graves of their ancestors to worship and sacrifice at their tombs. This no doubt was originally done merely as an act of remembrance of the dead, but it has apparently, in later years, degenerated until at the present time it would seem to partake more of the nature of an attempt to conciliate or propitiate the spirits of the dead, of whom the Chinese stand in perpetual dread. As we know to our cost, the Chinese who are away from home when this feast comes round, use every effort to return to where their ancestors lie buried, in order that they may perform the necessary worship, which is to them a matter of supreme importance. The common people, not having ancestral halls of their own, perform their worship before the ancestral-tablet which is found in every home, and in which the Chinese believe the spirits of their ancestors reside. The curious old custom of eating fruit and flower cakes at the graves of their ancestors at the Tsing Ming festival is still observed by the Chinese who are desirous of fulfilling their filial duties and obligations, although, perhaps, not to the same extent as formerly. This custom, however, originated in the Hao-chih or Cold Food Festival, which is probably still more ancient than the Tsing Ming festival, and which was formerly celebrated on the day preceding that festival. But this old feast seems to have been forgotten, or, being so near Tsing Ming has caused it to be incorporated with it, says a writer on the subject. An old Chinese work, referring on the Hao-chih festival, says that anyone who on this day eats hot food will have his rice-fields destroyed by hail.

## YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK.

Following is the forty-eighth report of the Yokohama Specie Bank, Limited, presented to the shareholders at the half-yearly ordinary general meeting, held at the head office, Yokohama, on 10th ult.:—

Gentlemen.—The directors submit to you the annexed statement of the liabilities and assets of the bank, and profit and loss account for the half-year ending December 31st, 1903.

The gross profits of the Bank for the past half-year, including yen 555,245 brought forward from last accounts, amount to yen 7,215,219, of which yen 5,597,551 have been deducted for current expenses, interests, &c., leaving a balance of yen 1,617,667.

The directors now propose that yen 110,000 be added to the reserve fund, raising it to yen 9,320,000. From the remainder the directors recommend a dividend at the rate of twelve per cent. per annum, which will absorb yen 720,000, on old shares and yen 360,000 on new shares making a total of yen 1,080,000.

The balance, yen 427,667 will be carried forward to the credit of next account.

NAGATANE SOMA, Chairman.

Head Office, Yokohama, 10th March, 1904.

BALANCE SHEET.	
Liabilities.	
Capital paid up	Yen 18,000,000
Reserve fund	9,320,000
Reserve for doubtful debts	369,609
Reserve for depreciation of buildings, premises, properties, furniture, etc.	607,345
Reserve for silver funds	400,000
Deposits (current, fixed, etc.)	72,871,851
Bills payable, bills re-discounted, acceptances, and other sums due by the bank	118,119,466
Dividends unclaimed	4,897
Amount brought forward from last account	555,245
Net profit for the past half-year	1,617,667
	Yen 221,200,837

Assets.	
Cash account:—	
In hand	Yen 5,119,030
At bankers	5,346,010
	Yen 10,465,041
Investments in public securities	22,113,466
Bills discounted, loans, advances, &c.	64,092,455
Bills receivable and other sums due to the bank	122,742,316
Bullion and foreign money	520,676
Bank's premises, properties, furniture, &c.	1,775,883
	Yen 221,200,837

## PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

To Current expenses, interests, &c.	Yen 5,597,551
To Reserve fund	110,000
To Dividend—	
yen 6,000 per share for 120,000 old shares—yen 720,000	
and	1,080,000
yen 3,000 per share for 120,000 new shares—yen 360,000	
To balance carried forward to next account	427,667
	Yen 7,215,219
By balance brought forward 30th June, 1903	Yen 555,245
By amount of gross profits for the half-year ending 31st Dec., 1903	6,659,974
	Yen 7,215,219

[Decimals omitted.]

We have examined the above accounts in detail, with the books and vouchers of the bank and the returns from the branches and agencies, and find them to be correct. We have further inspected the securities, &c., of the bank, and also those held on account of loans, advances, &c., and find them all to be in accordance with the books and accounts of the bank.

NOBUO TAJIMA,  
FUKUSABURO WATANABE, Auditors.

## COMMERCIAL.

## TO-DAY'S EXCHANGE.

Selling.	
London—Bank T.T.	1/9
Do. demand	1/9 1/16
Do. 4 months' sight	1/9 5/16
France—Bank T.T.	2 1/8
America—Bank T.T.	42 1/2
Germany—Bank T.T.	1/9
India T.T.	130 1/2
Do. demand	130 1/2
Shanghai—Bank T.T.	72 1/2
Japan—Bank T.T.	86 1/2
Singapore—Bank T.T.	Nominal
Java—Bank T.T.	105 1/2

Buying.	
4 months' sight L/C.	1/9 7/16
6 months' sight L/C.	1/9 9/16
30 days' sight San Francisco & New York	43 1/2
4 months' sight do.	44
30 days' sight Sydney and Melbourne	1/9 11/16
4 months' sight France	2 2/8
6 months' sight do.	2 2/8
4 months' sight Germany	1 2/8
Bar Silver	258
Bank of England rate	4 1/2

## OPIMUM QUOTATIONS.

To-day's quotations are as follows:—	
Per chest	
Malwa New	940/970
Old	980/1,060
Oldest	1,100/1,160
Patna New	1,325
Benares New	1,315
Perian (Paper)	850/950

To-day's  
Advertisements.

TENDERS are invited for the Supply of CAULKERS to the NAVAL YARD. For Particulars and Forms for tendering, apply to the Chief Constructor's Office, Naval Yard.

F. B. OLLIS,

Chief Constructor.

Hongkong, 7th April, 1904.

BUSINESS TRAINING COLLEGE.

"SHORTHAND."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "CHINA MAIL."

Hongkong, 5th April, 1904.

SIR,—Your correspondent X. Y. Z. in last night's issue should give his name and his OWN opinion, and not quote the Phonetic Journal. All Phonographers know the strong opposition the Pitman Institution shows to all systems that have any good and original ideas, and has been the means of casting aside temporarily several new shorthands and at least three splendid methods, to my knowledge far superior to the one named, invented over 60 years back by a Schoolmaster. Pitman's is obsolete; and as different as the CANDLEBURNED by Pitman, and the ELECTRIC light as used by the "up-to-date system." Sir Isaac Pitman told me at our last interview that our method as to certain strokes "was a clever inception," and I volunteered that so long as he lived I would not introduce the new system to the public. I kept my word. It is the remaining partners that are so anxious to retain the name of the Pitman Institute, and not one of whom, I am certain, know a lesson in the one I am so successfully introducing throughout the world. I do not lay claim to be the sole inventor, but only one of seven practical reporters from the British Houses of Lords and Commons and High Courts. I am prepared to teach Pitman's system to any idiot who is anxious to devote three years as against many months; and ten times the cost—I am, Sir, &c.

WARWICK PEELE,

Principal,

483] Studio: Business Training, near G. P. O.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.  
PAQUEBOTS-POSTE FRANCAIS.

## NOTICE.

STEAM FOR  
SAIGON, SINGAPORE, BATAVIA,  
COLOMBO, ADEN, EGYPT,  
MARSEILLES, MEDITERRANEAN AND  
BLACK SEA PORTS, LONDON,  
HAVRE, BORDEAUX;

ALSO  
PORTS OF BRAZIL AND RIVER PLATE.

ON TUESDAY, the 19th April, 1904, at 1 P.M., the Company's Steamship "SALAZIE," Captain Nègre, with Mail, Passengers, Specie and Cargo, will leave this Port for MARSEILLES, via Ports of Call, WITHOUT TRANSHIPMENT.

Cargo and Specie will be registered for London as well as for Marseilles, and accepted in transit through Marseilles for the principal places of Europe.

Shipping Orders will be granted till Noon only on MONDAY, the 18th April, Specie and Parcels received until 4 P.M. on the same day. No Cargo will be received on board on TUESDAY.

Parcels are not to be sent on board; they must be left at the Agency's Office. Contents and Value of Packages are required.

For further Particulars, apply at the Company's Office.

G. DE CHAMPEAUX,

Agent.

Hongkong, 7th April, 1904.

## Intimation.



THE POPULAR  
SCOTCH  
IS  
"BLACK & WHITE"



JAMES BUCHANAN & CO.  
SCOTCH WHISKY DISTILLERS.  
By Appointment to

H. M. THE KING  
and  
H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES

Supplied at all the LEADING CLUBS and HOTELS, and to be obtained from LANE, CRAWFORD & CO, Queen's Road Central.







## THE SHARE MARKET.

Page 11

<b>ANKS.</b>	
of £1.10/- & bonus of 10/- @ 1/8 1/2 =	\$295 b.
22.99 for half-year ending 31.12.1903	\$351 b.
— \$2 for 1903 .....	\$10
<b>INSURANCES.</b>	
per cent = \$3 per share for 1902 ...	\$475 b.
— \$1 for year ended 30.4.1903 .....	\$56 b.
al of £1 making £2 for 1903 .....	Tls. 67 1/2 b.
— \$12 for 1901 .....	\$135
— \$15 per share for 1902 .....	\$175 b.
<b>INSURANCES.</b>	
per share for 1902 .....	\$285 sa.
div. & \$1 bonus per share for 1902.	\$95
<b>IPPING.</b>	
for half-year ending 31.12.1903 ...	\$27 1/2
— 10/- per share for 1902 .....	\$95 sa.
% = \$5 per share for 1900 .....	\$32
of \$5 for year ended 30.6.1903 ...	\$4 b.
20 % = 12% for year ending	\$18 sa.
dis. 30.4.03 .....	\$37 1/2 sa.
erim of 1/- for 1903 .....	19/-
al of 2 % making 4 % for 1903 .....	Tls. 35

of 1.12 making 118.38 .....	118.408
WINERIES.	
of 57 making \$12 for 1902 .....	\$127 ea.
per share for 1897 .....	\$10 s.
-Tls. 24 for year ending 30.9.03...	Tls. 50 b.
MINING.	
ne .....	\$1 s.
erim of Frs. 30 for 1903.....	\$500

12.10.17 per share 26.1.01 .....	308
12.10.17 per share 26.10.03 .....	Tls. 6 ss.
DIVES AND GODOWNS.	
div. & St bonus for 1-year 30.6.03...	\$203 b.
erim of Tls. 5 for 1-year ending	Tls. 150 ss.
10.1903 .....	
of 1st making in all 50 for 1903	500 b.

.....	\$37.84
onal of Tls. 6 making Tls. 11 for 1903 .....	Tls. 170 s.
<b>SILLS AND BUILDINGS.</b>	
total of \$6 making \$12 for 1903 .....	\$145
60 per share for 1903 .....	\$35 S.
onal of \$1.70 making \$3.20 for 1903....	\$53 S.
for 2nd 4-year 1903 .....	\$135 sa.
N for year ending on 6..	35 s.

for year ending 31.3.03 .....	Tls. 15 ss.
per cent. for 1903 .....	510}
anal of 6 % & bonus of 4 % making } 16 % for 1903 .....	Tls. 107 ss.
ON MILLS,	
anal of 60 cents, making \$1 for } 1903/1903 .....	514} s.
% for period ended 31.10.1903, .....	Tls. 31 s.
term of 1 % on account of 1808 .....	Tls. 25 b.

terlin div. of 4 % on accl. of 1898 ...	Tls. 338 25.
% for period ended 31.12.1897.....	Tls. 170 s.
BACCO COMPANIES.	
% for year ending 30.6.1900 .....	\$200.
ret year .....	\$10 b.

<p>CELLANEOUS,</p> <p>%=\$1½ per share for 1903 .....</p> <p>cents per share for 1903 .....</p> <p>terim of 5 % for 1903 .....</p> <p>per share for 1903 .....</p> <p>%=80 cents per share for 1903 .....</p> <p>cents for year ending 30.4.1903 ...</p>	<p>\$2½ ex div.</p> <p>\$8.10 pa.</p> <p>\$14 b.</p> <p>\$4 b.</p> <p>\$6</p> <p>\$1½</p>
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o for 1909	8143
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Interim of \$12 making \$10 for 1903 ...	\$120
for year ending at 11 1902	\$100

iv. of \$3 for 1903.....	\$37 ex div.
.....	\$3 a.
cents } for year ending 31.03 ...	\$04 b.
9.70 }	\$10 b.
.....	\$15
.....	\$1 b.
.....	\$4
.....	Tia. 285 sa.
.....	\$50
.....	\$35
.....	.....

Share Brokers.

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*(continued)*

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# NOTICE.

**THE WEATHER WILL BE EXCEEDINGLY COLD** AFTER YOU PASS PORT SAID ON YOUR WAY HOME AND COLDER STILL SHOULD YOU GO VIA U. S. A. OR CANADA. YET YOU CANNOT AFFORD TO LOSE THE SPLENDOR OF THE MEDITERRANEAN OR PACIFIC SEA BY NIGHT. THEREFORE A TRAVELLING RUG BECOMES A NECESSITY AND WM. POWELL, LTD., ARE PREPARED TO SUPPLY FINE SCOTCH RUGS FROM \$8.50 TO \$25.00. THESE WILL BE FOUND IN THEIR GENTLEMEN'S DEPARTMENT AT 28, QUEEN'S ROAD, WHERE THEY ALSO STOCK ALL OTHER TRAVELLING REQUISITES.

**BY THE WAY,** HAVE YOU HEARD THEY HAVE JUST RECEIVED 19 CASES OF NEW SPRING GOODS WHICH ARE NOW OPENED OUT, AND OTHER LARGER SHIPMENTS FOLLOW TO STOCK THEIR NEW PREMISES IN DES VCEUX ROAD WHICH WILL BE OPENED SHORTLY? ONE OF THE CHIEF FEATURES OF THE BUSINESS WILL BE THE GRAND WINDOW DISPLAY WHICH CANNOT FAIL TO ATTRACT THE ATTENTION OF EVERY ONE IN THE COLONY.

**N.B.**—THE LADIES' DEPARTMENT IS AT PRESENT AT 34, QUEEN'S ROAD (UPSTAIRS).